

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Rapid City Swim Center Conference Room
February 2, 2006

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 4:30 PM on Thursday, February 2, 2006, with the following members present: Chairman Van Lindquist, Vice Chairman Wes Storm, Tom Allen, Sherri Zimmer and Hugh Welsh. Also present were City Council Liaison Karen Gundersen Olson, Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Cole, Parks Division Manager Lon Van Deusen, Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe, Golf Course Superintendent James Walraven, Aquatics Division Manager Duncan Olney, Bike Run Walk Committee Liaison Frank Matejck, Beautification Committee Liaison Steve Doshier and Administrative Assistant Jeri Lynn.

Motion was made by Storm, seconded by Welsh and carried to **approve the Advisory Board minutes** of January 5, 2006.

The **agenda** was approved with the following changes:

- Add request by Frank Lawton to construct a Drainage Detention Cell on a portion of the North Haines Parkland, and
- Replace report on Kansas City Street Reconstruction Project with report on Founders Park Development

Drainage Detention Cell

Frank Lawton explained that he is proposing a residential development on property located west of North Haines Park. The Drainage Master Plan for this area, which was approved by the City in 1992, calls for a detention cell on the city-owned land identified for North Haines Park. Lawton requested authorization from the Advisory Board to allow the detention cell to be constructed on city-owned land. Steve Thingelstad from Britton Engineering noted that the study his company did on drainage in this area substantiates the findings of the 1992 drainage study. The original study did take into account the amount of development that would be occurring in this area. Lawton noted that they are hoping to proceed on this project as soon as possible. Van Lindquist noted that the Board has been discussing the need for a park in this area and the process to develop and master plan this location has been started. Lindquist added that planning for a park in this location has never been done because the plan approved in 1992 was a drainage plan that contained a park element. Director Cole explained that a Tax Increment District was approved for this area which includes funding in the amount of \$500,000 to develop a park on this land. Some of that funding will be used to develop a master plan and that process is in the works now. Cole submitted a topographic map of the North Haines parkland for the Board's review. He noted that the Board needs to decide if we should wait on this decision until after the Master Plan is done, or decide that this detention cell is needed anyway and work around it when the park is developed. Cole added that this request is very recent and he has not had an opportunity to do any research on this issue. Lindquist noted that one of the central questions is, with the

drainage facility as it is proposed in the 1992 study, will it limit the type of development that can take place on this property. Thingelstad noted that one solution might be to provide a larger discharge pipe that will release flows at the historic level rather than retaining additional flows in this detention cell. He added that the cost of the project will depend on the type of outlet structure that is used and the amount of dirt that will have to be moved. Cole estimated that the proposed drainage facility will require 3-5 acres of land. He asked if there would be above-point filtration provided. Thingelstad noted that they will be required to provide erosion controls on their property which will take care of this issue. Allen asked when the developers need an answer on this issue. Lawton stated that they need to know as soon as possible because the development is on hold until this decision is made. Lindquist noted that it is not realistic for the Board to be expected to make a decision on this request without adequate time to research the issue. Cole noted that construction of a detention cell on city-owned property does require an 11-6-19 review. Storm noted that it would be appropriate for the Advisory Board to talk to the School District on the proposed use of the school's property which is adjacent to the City's parkland. It was the consensus of the Board that this item should be continued to the next meeting which is March 2, 2006.

Liaison Reports

Frank Matejcek reported that the Bike Walk Run Committee has not met since his last report.

Steve Doshier reported that the Beautification Committee met on January 18th and reviewed numerous projects that are underway: Canyon Lake Drive Irrigation Project, Welcome Sign, Kansas City Street Reconstruction Project, Mt. View Road Construction Project, and the West Chicago Street project that was just completed. The Committee also discussed the Omaha Street Corridor Master Plan. Doshier added that the Beautification Committee did approve the list of irrigation projects that was submitted by the Parks Department.

Report on Founders Park Development

Director Cole distributed an updated map showing the proposed development in Founders Park and explained how this development could affect the Executive Golf Course and other city-owned land in this area. The Lien Trust Foundation is requesting that an access road be constructed along the west side of the development which would be used to access their land and equipment (satellite towers). The developers of the project are proposing to construct a public parking lot so that the public does not park in the areas that will serve businesses in the new development. Cole added that the proposed access road will become the maintenance responsibility of the Parks Department since both access points are on city property. Cole added that the Advisory Board is not the only entity considering this request. The Board's decision will be submitted through the process, but it may not be the final decision. Cole noted that this is only an access road so we could install gates and provide keys for those entities that will need access through this area. Cole encouraged the Board to consider the entities

involved and how this decision might impact future decisions relating to city parkland. Cole added that this is also a very recent request so a decision isn't needed today. He added that this area is very well-used for a variety of recreational opportunities. Lindquist suggested that we ask the Lien Trust about their long-range plans for this area.

Director's Report

Cole presented an Organizational Structure of Advisory Board showing the voting members, liaison members and support staff. He also submitted a letter from Craig Weber letter concerning golf course operations. Mr. Weber was invited to address the Advisory Board with his concerns but he was not in attendance at the meeting.

Cole reported that the City Council is proceeding to get an appraisal of the Wally Byum property taking into account several different scenarios.

Also, a contract amendment has been prepared to add the bridge renovation to the Memorial Park contract. Funding for this part of the project was approved from the CIP Parks and Rec line item.

Regarding the Playground Equipment Replacement Project, Cole explained that we want to be sure that the playgrounds we are renovating are ADA accessible. Currently, Scott Mallow Park and College Park are not ADA accessible, so additional funds will have to be spent on sidewalks, parking and curb cuts. Funding for these items will come from the \$100,000 the Board set aside in the CIP Parks and Rec line item for cost overruns to the playground equipment project. We also want to make sure that we are able to use volunteer citizen help on these projects. In order to do that, we have to spell out each step of the process which will require four separate RFPs: 1) landscape architect to design park and side walks as well as landscaping and drainage; 2) playground equipment; 3) contract for the park sidewalks, drainage and structural elements for the playground; and 4) surfacing because we are looking at rubber surfacing in order to have an accessible playground area. Cole added that purchase of the rubber matting could be added to one of the existing RFPs.

Staff is continuing to work on the comprehensive plan and the first 34 pages and the inventory have been done. Cole indicated that he plans to distribute the first draft of the comprehensive plan at the next Advisory Board meeting.

Cole informed the Board that we have submitted requests to purchase six pickups for the Parks Department and one van for the Recreation Department. These requests will be submitted to the City Council for consideration on February 6, 2006. Based on concerns of some Council members, a Fleet Replacement Guideline for the Department has been prepared and will be used to explain future vehicle purchases.

The Parks Department has completed the Deer Management Plan for this year and 300 deer were harvested.

Representatives from Storybook Island have requested authorization to expand into five additional acres which are included in their existing lease. The lease does say they can expand into this area and Cole expects the City Council to give their approval. They will have to go through the 11-6-19 review process for this project.

Representatives from the Skyline Wilderness Board are in the process of trying to decide what is best for management of this property. Some options they are considering are putting the land into an easement and keeping it, or giving the property to the City. If they give the property to the City, they want assurances that it will be kept as public property forever. They are considering asking that a new zoning designation be developed for "wilderness" property which will have the requirement that the property never be sold or developed. Cole encouraged the Wilderness Board members to talk to the City Attorney about preparing a new ordinance for "urban wilderness parkland". If this ordinance is approved, there could be stipulations that the land can never be sold or developed.

Application packets for the 2006 Sports Facility Partnership Fund Grants have been distributed. Staff is proposing a modification to the program changing the language "501(c) (3)" to "non-profit organization". The proposed change will go the City Council on February 6th for consideration.

Cole also reported that options for changes to the road through Canyon Lake Park were submitted to the Public Works Committee on January 31st. There were requests for additional information on options and cost estimates. He expects that there will be continued discussion by the Committee on these options.

A request to advertise for bids for the Canyon Lake Drive irrigation project is on the City Council Agenda for approval on February 6, 2006.

Aquatics Division Manager Duncan Olney informed the Board that the City and the YMCA will be sponsoring the Rapid City Triathlon on June 8, 2006. There was also an incident in the locker room at the Swim Center where some young people were scaring kids with a pellet gun. The Police Department was contacted and is handling the issue.

Parks Division Manager Lon Van Deusen explained that a committee has been meeting relative to the Canyon Lake Bypass 2012 project. They have indicated that the funding amount of \$400,000 will not be adequate for this project. Van Deusen reported that they are reviewing the scope of the project including other improvements at Canyon Lake. The Committee is considering hiring a consultant to put the information on this project together and there may be federal grants available because this is a source of drinking water for the community. Olson suggested that the Black Hills Fly Fishermen group be contacted about fund raising for this project.

Golf Course Superintendent JJ Walraven reported that his staff is working on the tree replacement project at the golf course. They are doing a major project this year and hope to continue with a tree replacement program on an annual basis.

Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe reported that Recreation Specialist Brad Keizer is leaving the Ice Arena for a job in Wisconsin. Staffing at the Ice Arena will change somewhat in that the full-time FTE will be transferred to the Aquatics Division and the remaining position will be developed into a program position where the person will be adding special events, working with school groups at the Ice Arena and taking on the duties of starting an outdoor recreation program. These changes will eliminate the full-time positions at the Ice Arena and Lowe reported that he will be assuming management control.

Cole added that the Advisory Board members will be receiving an invitation to a luncheon on February 16th at 11:30 from the Healthy Communities organization. The luncheon will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Swim Center and the featured speaker will be Mark Fenton who will be talking about “walkable communities”.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM